

6-24-1886

## Letter from W. Pinckney Starke to unknown recipient, 1886 June 24

Follow this and additional works at: <https://tigerprints.clemson.edu/tgc>

Materials in this collection may be protected by copyright law (Title 17, U.S. code). Use of these materials beyond the exceptions provided for in the Fair Use and Educational Use clauses of the U.S. Copyright Law may violate federal law.

For additional rights information, please contact Kirstin O'Keefe ([kokeefe \[at\] clemson \[dot\] edu](mailto:kokeefe@clemson.edu))

For additional information about the collections, please contact the Special Collections and Archives by phone at 864.656.3031 or via email at [cuscl \[at\] clemson \[dot\] edu](mailto:cuscl@clemson.edu)

---

### Recommended Citation

"Letter from W. Pinckney Starke to unknown recipient, 1886 June 24" (1886). *Thomas Green Clemson Papers, Mss 2*. 1462.

<https://tigerprints.clemson.edu/tgc/1462>

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by the Manuscript Collections at TigerPrints. It has been accepted for inclusion in Thomas Green Clemson Papers, Mss 2 by an authorized administrator of TigerPrints. For more information, please contact [kokeefe@clemson.edu](mailto:kokeefe@clemson.edu).

long legs up  
 of summer  
 dollar. I  
 long too to  
 dip in the  
 Seneca river  
 So expect me  
 soon.  
 very respectfully  
 W. D. Starke  
 Beech Es. S. C.  
 24 June 1886

My Dear Col,  
 I have been somewhat  
 remiss in writing to you, but it was  
 not from any want of regard for you  
 or gratitude for your kindness. I am bus-  
 y "making haste slowly" too slowly with  
 my work which continues to grow in  
 interest and magnitude. I think I  
 should call it "Calhoun and the  
 Constitution". After getting Mr C  
 in Congress I have gone back and  
 given as brief as possible consistent  
 with perspicuity and at the same  
 time making the book so entertain-  
 ing as to be read with avidity the our  
 constitutional history from its incipi-  
 ency. Few persons know anything  
 about our Constitution in its formative  
 stage. I think that my plan



would please Mr. Calhoun best  
could he be made the judge  
of it, inasmuch as it presents him  
as the legitimate successor of Jefferson  
in endeavouring to found the government  
upon true democratic principles.  
We have a so-called democratic  
party in favor of centralization,  
protection and all the rest of it.  
The corruption of our government  
began with Hamilton. The struggle  
between Hamilton and Jefferson  
around Washington's Council board  
was the same as that between  
Webster and Calhoun. My views  
are very extended. I have briefly  
sketched the influence of French  
democratic opinions during the  
first ten years of our national  
being and of the Anglican idea  
in opposition. I have traced our  
revolution which was the beginning  
of the age of revolutions in



Europe to learn ~~from~~ Rousseau's  
famous Contract Social which  
~~was~~ I have found influenced Jefferson,  
political opinions and was  
exhibited <sup>for the first</sup> time in history by  
the ~~the~~ <sup>our</sup> Declaration of Independence,  
a Bill of Human Rights, I have  
shown that the English people  
were freer in the 14th 15th  
and 16th centuries than they  
were in 1789 when we took  
the British government for our  
model. Hamilton's aim was to  
make our American parliament as  
omnipotent as that of Great Britain  
I have shown that with the increase  
of power in parliament the English  
people commenced to sink and  
that under the great centralized  
government of Great Britain the people  
have gone on sinking till it is  
now based upon pauperism. It  
is owing to this cause mainly



that the present ominous political  
movements are due.

Mr Calhoun's place in the picture  
will be not inconspicuous. Instead  
of being simply regarded as the great  
Southern Statesman we must look  
upon him as influencing greater movements  
But controlling higher destinies &  
But I am near the end of my paper  
Sometimes in my intercourse with my  
friends I am abrupt and too rough  
Several times as I remember I have  
been rather rude to you. But my  
friends know me. I have been just  
as rough and short to my friend  
Gen. Hampton. He only laughed at  
me, knowing that I meant no harm.  
Give my regards to Mrs Prince and  
Essie. I long for some good milk  
and bread and real butter. I  
leave Monday week for Richmond for a few  
days and then to Pendleton for a  
long stay with you. I want to hear  
you talk about kings and queens  
and big men as you sit with them